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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/837,824	04/18/2001	Glen Davis	DGL-10002/15	9644

7590 02/27/2002

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EXAMINER

WONG, STEVEN B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 02/27/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/837,824	Applicant(s) Davis
	Examiner Steven Wong	Art Unit 3711
		
<i>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</i>		
Period for Reply		
<p>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 		
Status		
<p>1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>Apr 18, 2001</u></p>		
<p>2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.</p>		
<p>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.</p>		
Disposition of Claims		
<p>4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-9</u> is/are pending in the application.</p>		
<p>4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.</p>		
<p>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.</p>		
<p>6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-9</u> is/are rejected.</p>		
<p>7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.</p>		
<p>8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</p>		
Application Papers		
<p>9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.</p>		
<p>10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.</p>		
<p>11) <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) <input type="checkbox"/> approved b) <input type="checkbox"/> disapproved.</p>		
<p>12) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.</p>		
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119		
<p>13) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).</p>		
<p>a) <input type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some* c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of:</p>		
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</p>		
<p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.</p>		
<p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</p>		
<p>*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</p>		
<p>14) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).</p>		
Attachment(s)		
<p>15) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</p>		
<p>16) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</p>		
<p>17) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). <u>2</u></p>		
<p>18) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____</p>		
<p>19) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</p>		
<p>20) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>		

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hand.

Regarding claim 1, Hand discloses a set of water skipping articles comprising a three dimensional body (45) defined by upper and lower elliptically extending faces (41, 42) and a hollow interior cavity (57).

Regarding claim 4, the interior cavity is formed by elliptical surfaces (49, 55).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hand. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form the width to form the skipping article of Hand with the instantly claimed dimensions as the applicant has not shown the criticality

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by a new and unexpected result and it appears that the dimensions shown by Hand would accomplish similar purposes.

5. Claims 2 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hand in view of Glovak et al. (4,151,997). Glovak et al. reveal a water skipping article formed from sand and a water soluble organic binder (column 1, lines 33-43). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form the article of Hand from the materials of Glovak et al. in order to provide an environmentally friendly water skipping article.

Conclusion

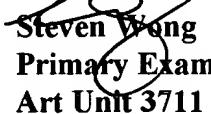
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven Wong whose telephone number is (703) 308-3135.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

Official responses, subject to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d), can be faxed to (703) 305-3579.

Unofficial faxes which are meant for discussion purposes only should be sent to (703) 308-7768. It is strongly suggested that the examiner be contacted directly before sending any unofficial fax.


Steven Wong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3711